


Re: Fw: USDA - Bay questions   
Kelly Shenk to: Daniel Ryan

10/04/2010 09:19 AM

Hi Dan,

So sorry I missed your email. Thanks for the call and details of what you were looking for.  
Here are the dates you need. Anything in bold text is new information I added to earlier email to give you more specifics. Email with any questions.  
I'll be here until 10:30 today. K

**TMDL Briefings:**

**\* July 9: TMDL 101 Primer:**

**Summer "meet and greet" with Ann Mills:** Ann Mills asked for this informal meeting to meet our staff and get a primer on the TMDL. Jeff Corbin, Rob Wood, and Kelly Shenk briefed Ann Mills and Kari Cohen (special advisor) on the Chesapeake Bay TMDL at an informal "meet and greet" this summer. It was a great opportunity for us to give her a TMDL 101 primer, talk about schedules, talk about USDA role in working with states, and USDA role in helping to address key ag challenges such as developing technologies for alternative uses of manure.

**\* JULY 1st:**

**State/USDA Collaboration on TMDL:**

Kelly Shenk and MDE Colleagues briefed Ann Mills and Harris Sherman, Under-Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, on TMDL, state approach for addressing TMDL, and opportunities for USDA/State collaboration.

**\* August 19:**

Larry Elworth, Nancy Stoner, Kelly Shenk met with USDA (Ann Mills, Patty Lawrence, Rick Swenson) on ag certainty and trading as ways to motivate agricultural involvement in TMDL. The purpose of this meeting was for USDA to discuss their comments on the draft ag certainty paper that had been under development since June. There were a number of meetings between Ann Mills, Larry Elworth, and Nancy Stoner that happened in June and July on this topic which culminated in this August meeting.

**\* September 23:**

Courtesy Call to USDA to discuss TMDL announcement in advance of 9/24 release, WIP overviews by states, what TMDL backstops could mean for ag, and USDA roles for supporting states in building assurance in WIPs to avoid backstops.

\* Our recent meeting with Ann Mills on TMDL. She would like to follow up with us in more detail to get some thoughts on how to best approach states.

**Model Meetings:** All meetings related to model are also directly related to TMDL. Ag community is using USDA to help vet key issues they have with the model as the underpinning of TMDL. Here are a few key meetings.

\* **Summer:** Larry Elworth and Kelly Shenk met with Rick Swenson, Glenn Carpenter, and the NRCS Conservation Effectiveness Assessment Project modelers to map out a plan for how best to coordinate modeling efforts. At this meeting, EPA agreed to have a USDA employee stationed at the CBPO to get to know model and communicate ag issues about model. USDA agreed to share preliminary results on CEAP Chesapeake study and coordinate a comparative analysis of our respective models.

\* **March:** TMDL and Model webinar for agricultural community. USDA and EPA worked together to set up this webinar to directly address key questions the agricultural community had about model and TMDL. Rich Batiuk, Gary Shenk from EPA worked directly with Rick Swenson and Glenn Carpenter, USDA to set this meeting up.

\* **July 27th:** USDA/EPA Model Coordination Meeting - Discussed preliminary findings from CEAP and

mapped out plan for comparative analysis of CEAP model results with Chesapeake Bay Model results  
Will be meeting in October to finalize results of comparative analysis in advance of CEAP report release .

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Daniel Ryan Kelly- I don't know if the message below, got to. 10/01/2010 10:02:22 AM

**Fw: USDA - Bay questions**

Daniel Ryan to: Kelly Shenk 10/01/2010 10:02 AM

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Ann and about when did it happen?  
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and your help is appreciated.

----- Forwarded by Daniel Ryan/R3/USEPA/US on 09/30/2010 08:38 AM -----

Kelly Shenk

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Kelly Shenk  
**Sent:** 09/29/2010 02:52 PM EDT  
**To:** Shawn Garvin  
**Cc:** Katherine Antos; Richard Batiuk; James Edward; Jon Capacasa; Linda Miller; Robert Koroncai  
**Subject:** Re: USDA - Bay

Hi Shawn,  
Katherine is going to give you the USDA membership on our CBP Committee's and their involvement in the TMDL.  
Here's my answer from my interactions with USDA.

**EPA Briefings with USDA on TMDL:**

We have had a number of opportunities this summer/fall to brief USDA on the TMDL. Four noteworthy meetings are:

- \* Summer "meet and greet" with Ann Mills: Jeff Corbin, Rob Wood, and I briefed Ann Mills and Kari Cohen (special advisor) on the Chesapeake Bay TMDL at an informal "meet and greet" this summer. It was a great opportunity for us to give her a TMDL 101 primer, talk about schedules, talk about USDA role in working with states, and USDA role in helping to address key ag challenges such as developing technologies for alternative uses of manure.

- \* State/USDA Collaboration on TMDL: MDE Colleagues and I briefed Ann Mills and her boss on TMDL, state approach for addressing TMDL, and opportunities for USDA/State collaboration.

- \* More detailed discussions with USDA (Ann Mills, Rick Swenson) on ag certainty and trading as ways to motivate agricultural involvement in TMDL.

- \* Our recent meeting with Ann Mills on TMDL. She would like to follow up with us in more detail to get some thoughts on how to best approach states.

**Model Briefings:**

- \* We've also had numerous model webinars and briefings with USDA which obviously has some connection to TMDL, albeit not direct.

**USDA NRCS Involvement in State WIP Discussions:**

In most cases (DE, WV, VA, PA) NRCS was a stakeholder at the state meetings to develop the WIPs. MD did not involve USDA in discussion and MDA indicated that they only were going to address funding that they could control.

I am not sure if NY engaged NRCS in WIP development or not.

**Personal Impressions:**

USDA, although present at the state WIP development meetings, was a quiet presence and did not offer constructive ideas for how to best leverage federal Farm Bill funding to meet targets, how to estimate current level of capacity based on current farm bill funded work, how to anticipate increases in capacity given increases in Farm Bill funding, ideas for cooperative agreements with states to ensure reductions from USDA programs, etc.

I don't know of one USDA or NRCS person who has ready the WIPs or even has a copy of them. They have not taken a proactive role in figuring out where they can insert themselves into WIP process. They seem to be waiting for states to make request. But states are not biting yet.

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Shawn Garvin

What type of day-to-day involvement have we h...

09/29/2010 02:13:50 PM